BC Environment
River Forecast Centre

Water Supply and Streamflow Conditions:
Issued: July 9, 2007

Following a winter of above normal snowpacks throughout much of the province, and a cool and damp spring, rivers in most portions of the province are now experiencing above normal streamflow conditions for this time of year. The exceptions to this are in the Okanagan, Kettle and Nicola basins, and some other locations in the southern interior, where drier than normal weather during April and May has produced below normal streamflow conditions:

- The Nicola River above Nicola Lake is only 67% of normal.
- The Moyie River at Eastport (in the East Kootenay) is only 55% of normal.
- Inflows to Okanagan Lake were only 66% of normal for the April-June period, and Okanagan Lake water level peaked approximately 0.25 m below its full capacity.

At May 1st, winter snow water accumulations were above normal (generally, well above normal) for most areas (Fraser, Nechako, Thompson, Peace, Skeena, Kootenay, Columbia, South Coast), but were slightly below normal for the Okanagan, Nicola, Similkameen and Kettle. Precipitation during April and May was near or above normal in most areas, but was below normal in the Okanagan, Nicola, Similkameen and Kettle. Much of the winter's snow melted late, as a result of cool weather during April and May, producing widespread high streamflow conditions throughout the province, and significant flooding in some areas. Since them, rainfall during June has been near or above normal throughout much of the interior, including the Okanagan, Kettle and Similkameen.

There are currently no areas of water supply concern in British Columbia. However, the weather during the next few weeks will play a critical role in how water supply and streamflow conditions develop in watersheds throughout the province, particularly in the dry southern interior. Conditions can change quickly, particularly if the weather is warmer and drier than normal.

Water supply and streamflow conditions are being monitored closely by the B.C. River Forecast Centre. For further information and updates on information, please refer to the centre's webpage at: http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/rfc/river_forecast/water_supply.htm.

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